

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board met six times during the period January 2003 through December 2003: March 24, April 14, May 12, June 9, August 4, and November 17-18. At its organizational meeting in March, the newly elected Executive Board elected Representative Orville B. Smidt (R-Brookings) as Chair and Senator Ed Olson (R-Mitchell) as Vice Chair for 2003-2004. Members' terms are two years. At its April and May meetings, the Board established the interim program by selecting study topics and appointing study committees. The Board also assigned five issue memorandums: (1) *Consumer-Directed Health Care*; (2) *The Regulation of Vehicle, Implement, and Equipment Dealer Franchises and Dealer Agreements*; (3) *Sales Tax on Food*; (4) *The Roles of Innovation and Venture Capital in Economic Development*; and (5) *Taxation*. The other highlights of the 2003 meetings are summarized on page 2 of this report.

On October 3-5, the Executive Board, the Majority and Minority Leaders, and the Co-chairs of the Appropriations Committees met for a working retreat in Rapid City. The main topic of discussion at the gathering was the appropriations process.

The Board monitors the legislative participation in the Council of State Governments (CSG). The 2003 Midwestern Meeting was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 24-27. Topics included state-federal relations, protecting the Great Lakes, environmental challenges for the rural Midwest, state efforts to enhance K-16 education, trends in sentencing reform, and implications of TEA-21 reauthorization.

The 2004 meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Conference, scheduled for July 11-14, will be in Des Moines, Iowa.

Legislators who served on Council of State Governments committees are listed in the Appendix to the *Interim Report*.

The Midwestern Legislative Conference's annual Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD) was held July 11-15, 2003, in Madison, Wisconsin. Senator Tom Dempster and Representatives Joni M. Cutler and Kathy Miles participated in this training program, which is designed exclusively for Midwestern legislators. The Bowhay Institute is named in honor of the late James Bowhay, the first director of the Midwestern Office of the Council of State Governments.

The CSG Annual State Trends and Leadership Forum was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on October 23-26. At this meeting, the South Dakota Legislature was recognized for its Web site. The Center for Digital Government, a national research and advisory institute serving both government and industry, ranked the site number two in the nation, tied with Minnesota. (Nevada's site was ranked

number one.) The Legislature's Web site has become the focal point of activity and information for legislators, citizens, professional lobbyists, and staff members.

In addition to the Council of State Governments, the Legislature is a member of the **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)**. *Connecting America* was the theme of the 2003 NCSL Annual Meeting, which was held in San Francisco, California, July 21-25. The 2004 meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 19-23.

Members of the 2003 NCSL committees can be found in the Appendix. Senator Larry Diedrich served on the NCSL Executive Committee in 2003.

The Board is responsible for appointments to several groups, including the State Investment Council, South Dakota Code Commission, and Uniform Laws Commission (ULC). At its June 9 meeting, the Board appointed Dr. Angeline Lavin of Sioux Falls to a five-year term on the Investment Council. The Board also reappointed Mr. Michael DeMersseman of Rapid City to a two-year term on the South Dakota Code Commission and to a three-year term on the Uniform Laws Commission. On August 4 Senator Dave Knudson was appointed to a three-year term on the Uniform Laws Commission.

In other action throughout the year, the Executive Board:

- Authorized payment of the Legislature's share of the 2003 dues and future dues to the Education Commission of the States.
- Awarded State Investment Officer Stephen R. Myers a bonus of \$149,043.66 for the two-year period ending June 30, 2003.
- Selected the Department of Education and the Bureau of Information and Technology for review during the 2004 interim.
- Agreed to introduce legislation in the 2004 Legislative Session to provide for compensation for legislative leaders.
- Received reports on the Division of Criminal Investigation expansion project and the Governor's residence project.
- Awarded the legislative printing contract for the 2004 Legislative Session to State Publishing Company of Pierre.

In addition, the Executive Board served as the interim Bonding Committee. The committee met on November 17 and 18 to review the operations, programs, and financial conditions of the various state authorities and agencies authorized to incur debt. The committee received the annual reports from and asked questions of the representatives of the following: the South Dakota Housing Development Authority, the South Dakota Building Authority, the South Dakota Health and Educational Facilities Authority, the South Dakota Economic Development Authority, the South Dakota Conservancy District, and the South Dakota Value Added Finance Authority.

Staff members to the Bonding Committee included: Fred Baatz, Principal Research Analyst; and Teri Retrum, Senior Legislative Secretary.

The Executive Board is responsible for the entire interim research program of the

Legislative Research Council. The several committees, working within the framework of the Legislative Research Council, have submitted their summaries in this report and will submit their legislative recommendations to the 2004 Legislature.

Listing of Executive Board Members

Members: Representative Orville B. Smidt, Chair; Senator Ed Olson, Vice Chair; Senators Arnold M. Brown, Tom Dempster, H. Paul Dennert, Brock L. Greenfield, Gil Koetzle, and Royal “Mac” McCracken; and Representatives Julie Bartling, Rebekah Craddock, Phyllis M. Heineman, Claire B. Konold, Gerald Lange, Matthew Michels, and Ron Williamson.

Staff members: James A. Fry, LRC Director; Yolonda J. Soyer, Administrative Assistant; Rhonda Purkapile and Teri Retrum, Senior Legislative Secretaries; and Kris Schneider, Legislative Secretary.